

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

June 25, 1997
Phoenix Museum of History-Public Hall
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale, Chairman	Councilmember Sara Moya, Paradise Valley
* Mayor Tom Morales, Avondale	Councilmember Ella Makkula for Mayor
Mayor Mike Baker, Buckeye	John Keegan, Peoria
Mayor Hugh Stevens, Carefree	*Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix
* Mayor Tom Augherton, Cave Creek	Mayor Mark Schnepf, Queen Creek
Mayor Jay Tibshraeny, Chandler	*President Ivan Makil, Salt River Pima-
* Mayor Maggie Reese, El Mirage	Maricopa Indian Community
* Mayor Jerold Miles, Fountain Hills	Mayor Sam Campana, Scottsdale
Mayor Chuck Turner, Gila Bend	*Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise
* Governor Mary Thomas, Gila River Indian	Vice Mayor Joseph Lewis for Mayor Neil
Community	Giuliano, Tempe
Mayor Cynthia Dunham, Gilbert	Vice Mayor Melinda Diaz for Mayor Adolfo
Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear	Gamez, Tolleson
Mayor Frances Osuna, Guadalupe	*Mayor Dallas Gant, Wickenburg
Vice Mayor Bert Van Wagner for Mayor	Mayor William Kosanovich, Youngtown
Richard Vasiloff, Litchfield Park	F. Rockne Arnett, ADOT
Supervisor Betsey Bayless, Maricopa County	Chuck Coughlin, Citizens Transportation
Mayor Wayne Brown, Mesa	Oversight Committee

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Regional Council was called to order by Chairman Elaine Scruggs at 5:10 p.m. Chairman Scruggs introduced the following proxies: Vice Mayor Bert Van Wagner for Mayor Dick Vasiloff from the City of Litchfield Park, Councilmember Ella Makkula for Mayor John Keegan from the City of Peoria, Vice Mayor Joseph Lewis for Mayor Neil Giuliano from the City of Tempe and Vice Mayor Melinda Diaz for Mayor Adolfo Gamez from the City of Tolleson.

Chairman Scruggs presented new member certificates to Mayor Cynthia Dunham from the Town of Gilbert and Mayor William Kosanovich from the Town of Youngtown.

Chairman Scruggs announced that parking is provided by the City of Phoenix. She indicated that in order to receive free parking, tickets should be validated at the Museum information desk and signed. Chairman Scruggs indicated that RPTA has generously agreed to provide transit tickets for individuals who used the bus to get to the Regional Council meeting. She stated that tickets are available following the meeting from Ken Driggs from the RPTA.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of May 28, 1997 Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Bert Van Wagner asked that the second sentence in the last paragraph of the Agency Showcase be stricken. Vice Mayor Van Wagner moved, Councilmember Sara Moya seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 28, 1997 Regional Council meeting with the correction noted by Vice Mayor Bert Wagner.

4. Call to the Audience

Dianne Barker indicated that she was opposed to the proposed fiscal year 1998 MAG Annual Budget. Ms. Barker stated that she overheard MAG staff say that they would be utilizing the express bus. Ms. Barker also stated that she appreciates the multi modal efforts, and the long, hard-work that has been done to solve the problems.

Marvin Manning stated his opinion on the transportation proposal. Mr. Manning stated that the number of vehicles on surface streets is increasing, and that there is a need for a 21st Century mass transit system to reduce vehicles on surface streets.

Stephen Clark stated that he was shocked not to have received the full packet for this meeting. He stated that he received no backup information with his agenda. Mr. Clark stated that if there has been a change, he was not notified. Chairman Scruggs asked that staff follow-up with Mr. Clark on that issue.

Blue Crowley made several comments on the allocation of transit funds. Mr. Crowley stated that he feels that spending \$14,000 on trolley art objects in the Transit Center is not an acceptable way to use funds. He stated that \$5,000 was spent on bus stop improvements in the City of Surprise, and \$4 million on the transit terminal in Phoenix.

6. Executive Director's Report

James M. Bourey informed the Regional Council of an item for consideration at the next Regional Council meeting. Mr. Bourey gave a breakdown of additional federal funding for the region of approximately \$4 million. Mr. Bourey explained that there is \$1 million in uncommitted current funding and \$1 million in potential redistributed funds for various projects. Mr. Bourey also explained that in 1995, there was an error in the distribution of funds to certain states, and Arizona was shorted \$1.8

million. Mayor Tibshraeny asked if staff was currently working on the reallocation of these funds. Mr. Bourey stated that this is being reviewed by staff and that the Transportation Review Committee had met on the issue today.

Chairman Scruggs interjected to apologize for missing the showcase. Chairman Scruggs stated that the Agency Showcase will follow the Executive Director's Report.

Mr. Bourey indicated that MAG officially moved its office on June 14, 1997 and is now located at 302 North 1st Avenue. He stated that the office relocation is a great improvement. Mr. Bourey stated that having the employees in one location is more productive and improves communications. Mr. Bourey stated that all the office furniture is not yet delivered, but everything should be in place by the July Management Committee meeting. Mr. Bourey informed the Regional Council that the July Management Committee meeting and Regional Council meeting will be held at MAG's new location. Information on parking will be sent out before the meetings. Mr. Bourey stated that he would be glad to give a tour of the office space at the next meeting.

Mr. Bourey informed the Regional Council that on June 30, 1997 League employees assigned to MAG and employees on the County payroll assigned to MAG will become MAG employees. He stated that four employees will remain technically on the County payroll due to the retirement system.

Mr. Bourey explained the cash flow challenge at MAG. He stated that approximately 80 percent of MAG's money comes from federal sources. Mr. Bourey stated that, at times, cash availability is limited. Mr. Bourey explained that MAG is trying to solve the problem by speeding up the reimbursement process. Mr. Bourey stated that MAG has initiated discussion regarding a line of credit from the City of Phoenix to extend a maximum of \$500,000 if needed. He stated that this item would come to the Management Committee and Regional Council in July.

Mr. Bourey then explained the compensation and classification plan at MAG. He stated that MAG had never conducted a local, regional or national comparison of salaries. He stated that MAG staffing had turnover as high as 67 percent in one year for certain positions. Mr. Bourey explained that various cities were surveyed, and a classification system with a salary range for all MAG employees was developed. These salaries will be effective July 1, 1997. Mr. Bourey stated that this allows MAG to become reasonably competitive. Mr. Bourey assured the Regional Council that this will be implemented within the budget.

Mr. Bourey welcomed recent staff additions: Dawn Coomer, Transportation Planner; Audrey Evans, Support Staff Supervisor and Denise McClafferty, Administrative Secretary. Mr. Bourey stated that Denise came from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and will be working with the Regional Council and setting up the meetings.

Chairman Scruggs welcomed the three new staff members. Chairman Scruggs stated that MAG initiated a self-examination and reengineering process, and hopes that the Regional Council will continue to be kept informed of the restructuring.

5. Agency Showcase

The Town of Gila Bend presented the MAG member agency showcase. Chairman Scruggs introduced Mayor Chuck Turner. Mayor Turner thanked Chairman Scruggs and the Regional Council for the opportunity to showcase the Town of Gila Bend. He then introduced David Howard, Town Manager, and his wife Chris who would assist in the showcase presentation.

David Howard began his presentation by stating that the Town of Gila Bend is a welcome oasis in the center of the southwestern Arizona desert. In Gila Bend, the major sources of revenues are from the tourism and service industry. Mr. Howard stated that with 90,000 acres under cultivation within the immediate proximity of Gila Bend, agriculture is the number one employer in the area. Cotton has been one of the agricultural mainstays, with wheat and barley close behind. Mr. Howard stated that there are approximately 25,000 acres of high quality alfalfa grown in the area. The Gila Bend area produces approximately 40,000 acres of grain a year. In addition, the 2.8 million acre Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field supports the Barry M. Goldwater Gunnery Range and is the third largest employer in Gila Bend.

Mr. Howard noted that Gila Bend has state-of-the-art fire equipment. He stated that with four pieces of fire fighting apparatus, the Fire Department covers an area that extends halfway to Yuma, halfway to Buckeye, halfway to Casa Grande and halfway to Mexico, all with volunteers. Mr. Howard explained that part of the success of providing so much coverage with so little monetary support comes from creating partnerships with such companies as Rural Metro for ambulance service.

For medical and pharmaceutical services, the town is served by the Gila Bend Primary Care Facility which is constantly going through upgrades. Emergencies outside of cuts and bruises must be taken care of in Phoenix.

Mr. Howard noted that Gila Bend residents take great pride in their community with many organized annual events. The Community Center houses the Library, Senior Citizen Program and Social Service. Mr. Howard stated that the community park was built with numerous volunteer hours in the early 1980's. He also noted that an extensive recreation program is operated by the Town of Gila Bend for both adults and youths. Mr. Howard stated that Gila Bend's school district instructs approximately 640 students from kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Mr. Howard stated that there are many cultural resources in the area principally of a historical nature. Among these is the Painted Rock State Historic Park and the ancient Hohokom Religious Center now known as the Gatlin Site. Mr. Howard stated that the site has been excavated from time to time since the 1950's and is now a National Historic Landmark owned by the Town of Gila Bend.

Mr. Howard extended an invitation to experience Gila Bend and all that it has to offer.

7. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Scruggs stated that agenda items number 8, 9, 10 and 11 are listed on the consent agenda. Chairman Scruggs asked if any member wished to remove any consent item. No member responded. She then called on audience comments.

Mr. Blue Crowley commented on consent agenda item #8, Draft July 1, 1996 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates. Mr. Crowley stated that MAG conducted a Special Census for the Federal Government. He stated that in Arizona there are three agencies involved with population: the Department of Economic Security, ASU and the Census Bureau. He added that the population projections of the Department of Economic Security are overinflated, while the projections developed by ASU are more accurate. Mr. Crowley stated that the census provides the number of households, the number of residents and job information. He stated that the information in the census does not truly represent the City of Tempe or El Mirage.

Mr. Crowley commented on consent agenda item #9, Approval of Draft 2000-2050 MAG Socioeconomic Projections by Municipal Planning Area, and Regional Analysis Zone; and 2000-2020 Projections by Traffic Analysis Zone. Mr. Crowley stated that he believes that these projections do not accurately reflect households and residents. He stated that Tempe, El Mirage and Paradise Valley have increased in population. Mr. Crowley requested a more extensive breakdown.

Mr. Crowley commented on consent agenda item #10, Consultant Recommendation for Desert Spaces Plan Implementation Task Force Community Survey on Funding Open Space Acquisition and Management. Mr. Crowley stated that part of the open space includes golf courses. Mr. Crowley stated that in Phoenix, more of the golf courses are in a gated community and are not accessible to the public.

Mr. Crowley opposed consent agenda item #11, Proposed FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget. Mr. Crowley stated that MAG's salary budget is \$1,924,067 with \$570,920 in benefits. He stated that insurance has tripled and training costs have increased. Mr. Crowley objects to this increase in the budget and asked Regional Council to stop this item.

Ms. Dianne Barker opposed consent agenda item #11. Proposed FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget. Ms. Barker asked Regional Council to consider tabling and reviewing the proposed budget. She stated that MAG does not make good use of funding. Ms. Barker stated that one-fifth of the budget is for consultant studies. She believes this work should be done in-house to support MAG's own staff. Ms. Barker also recommended that the Environmental Protection Agency review future models.

Mr. Stephen Clark opposed consent agenda item #11. Proposed FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget. Mr. Clark stated that he is disturbed to see that two-fifths of the budget is allocated for salaries and benefits, and one-fifth is allocated for consultants. He stated that he objects to the spending of money for Regional Council dinners. Mr. Clark stated that consulting should stop or MAG should cut staff. He feels this duplication of effort is obscene.

Mayor Wayne Brown moved, Mayor Hugh Stevens seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve items 8, 9, 10 and 11 on the consent agenda.

8. Draft July 1, 1996 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates

The Regional Council approved, by consent, the Draft July 1, 1996 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates. MAG has prepared July 1, 1996 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates on behalf of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR). The Updates have been prepared using a method that is consistent with the method used to prepare the July 1, 1996 Municipality Resident Population Updates that were adopted by MAG. These Updates will be used by ADWR in assessing municipal compliance with per capita water use targets. On May 29, 1997, the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee recommended approval of the July 1, 1996 Water Service Area Resident Population Updates. The Management Committee concurred with this recommendation.

9. Approval of Draft 2000-2050 MAG Socioeconomic Projections by Municipal Planning Area, and Regional Analysis Zone; and 2000-2020 Projections by Traffic Analysis Zone.

The Regional Council approved, by consent, the Draft 2000-2050 and Draft 2000-2020 Socioeconomic Projections. On June 5, 1997 the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee recommended approval of the Draft 2000-2050 projections of households and resident population by Municipal Planning Area (MPA) and Regional Analysis Zones (RAZ); and the Draft 2000-2020 projections of households, resident population in households, resident population in Group Quarters and employment by Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ). The Management Committee concurred with these recommendations.

10. Consultant Recommendation for Desert Spaces Plan Implementation Task Force Community Survey on Funding Open Space Acquisition and Management.

The Regional Council approved, by consent, the Consultant Recommendation for Desert Spaces Plan Implementation. In February 1997 the Regional Council approved funding for a survey of public attitudes toward funding open space acquisition and management. In May 1997, MAG received seven responses to the Request for Proposals to conduct the survey. These proposals were provided to the Desert Spaces Plan Implementation Task Force. The Task Force established a subcommittee to review the proposals and make a consultant recommendation. The Subcommittee interviewed four consultants and is recommending that the Mellman Group conduct the survey for an amount not to exceed \$30,000. The Management Committee concurred with this recommendation.

11. Proposed FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget

The Regional Council approved, by consent, the Proposed FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget. On May 15, 1997, the Proposed FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget was presented to the Regional Council Executive Committee. The FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget is a more detailed description of the proposed expenditures for MAG relating to the FY 1998 MAG Unified Planning Work Program

(UPWP). The proposed FY 1998 MAG Annual Budget will encompass the first year MAG will be separated from the League of Arizona Cities and Towns. In addition, a large portion of the MAG Transportation and Planning Office staff will be joining the MAG payroll. Our experience in FY 1998 will assist in the preparation of a more defined annual budget in FY 1999. In June, the budget was considered and recommended for approval by the Management Committee.

12. Reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

James Bourey stated that ISTEA expires September 30th of this year. Mr. Bourey indicated that ISTEA provides approximately \$40 million per year for the MAG region for transportation and air quality related projects. He stated that this is a major interest to Arizona and the entire country. Mr. Bourey indicated that ISTEA has been very beneficial. Mr. Bourey stated that he attended the annual meeting of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) and the National Association of Regional Councils. He stated that the federal gas tax issue was raised. Mr. Bourey stated that some states do not get back as much as they collect. Mr. Bourey explained that the use of gas tax funds goes to transportation programs, and there have been huge requests for additional funding for special projects. He explained that transportation officials are hoping for additional transportation funding. Mr. Bourey explained that Representative Schuster offered an amendment to the comprehensive budget. This amendment would have provided additional programs and would have resolved many donor-donee problems. Mr. Bourey stated that this failed by two votes. Mr. Bourey reviewed the three alternatives: 1) a full five-year reauthorization of the legislation, 2) a short-term one-year reauthorization, and 3) to authorize funding through a continuing resolution. Mr. Bourey explained that the CMAQ Program, enhancement funding and others may be in danger if Congress adopts the five-year reauthorization of the legislation with the projected levels of funding.

Mr. Bourey stated that if any member needs additional information, MAG staff will provide it.

Prior to discussion on item number 13, Vice Mayor Joseph Lewis of Tempe left the Regional Council Meeting.

13. Region 2025 Vision Update

Mr. Bourey briefly provided this update. He stated that Regional Council members should have received a letter from the Chairman requesting the suggestion of names for appointment to the Region 2025 Vision Committee. Mr. Bourey stated that he hopes to have the names for the committee by mid July.

Mayor Wayne Brown stated that he did not understand the process whereby the Region 2025 Vision Committee would be formed. He inquired about the purpose of submitting so many names. Mr. Bourey stated that this committee will be a large committee. He also stated that the Executive Committee feels strongly about each jurisdiction being thoroughly represented.

Chairman Scruggs explained that the Executive Committee is trying to ensure that the vision for this region will be developed through broad representation including various agencies and people who live in the community.

Mayor Brown stated that he is still not clear on how names are to be submitted. Chairman Scruggs explained that the names members submit will form a region-wide pool of names. Chairman Scruggs stated that if a name is not picked from the region wide pool to participate on the Region 2025 Vision Committee, that person could be asked to participate on a collaborative committee at a later date. Mayor Cynthia Dunham asked if there was a time frame for this project. Mr. Bourey stated that it would be very helpful if the Executive Committee received the names within two or three weeks. Mr. Bourey stated that he realizes that this is considerable work in a short amount of time, but asked that members do their best. Chairman Scruggs asked if there were any other questions.

14. Election of Officers

Mayor Bill Arnold presented the Election of Officers. Mayor Arnold stated that the MAG Nominating Committee has recommended a slate of officers for 1997-1998. Mayor Arnold announced the recommendations; Mayor Elaine Scruggs of Glendale for Chairman, Mayor Neil Giuliano of Tempe for Vice Chairman, Mayor Skip Rimsza of Phoenix for Treasurer, and Mayor Jay Tibshraeny of Chandler and Mayor Dallas Gant of Wickenburg for the two at-large members. Mayor Bill Arnold moved, Vice Mayor Bert Van Wagner seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the recommendations for the Election of Officers.

Chairman Scruggs recognized the 30th anniversary of MAG. She stated that this is a hallmark year for MAG with a new Executive Director and a new location. Chairman Scruggs stated that she hopes MAG can be a truly autonomous organization. Chairman Scruggs encouraged each member to find the time to talk with the new Executive Director. Chairman Scruggs stated that within the last year, we can truly recognize signs of accomplishment with various agencies. Chairman Scruggs stated that although there have been some difficult and trying times, this year has been a rewarding and uplifting transition for MAG. Chairman Scruggs noted that the strength of MAG is through the talents of local governments working together to resolve common problems. She stated her desire to implement an awards program in the coming year, which would recognize the outstanding efforts of local government. Chairman Scruggs thanked everyone for their support.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary